

REMARKS

The foregoing amendment cancels claims 1, 4 and 6. Now pending in the application are claims 3 and 5, of which claims 3 and 5 are independent. The following comments address all stated grounds for rejection and place the presently pending claims, as identified above, in condition for allowance.

Patentable Subject Matter

Claims 3 and 5 are allowed.

Rejection of Claims 4 under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant's Admitted Prior Art ("AAPA") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,127,840 ("Coteus"). In the foregoing claim amendments, claim 4 is canceled. In light of the foregoing amendment, Applicants submit that the rejection of claim 4 is moot. Applicants therefore request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

Rejection of Claims 1 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,396,282 ("Minuth") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,896,417 ("Lau"). In the foregoing claim amendments, claims 1 and 6 are canceled. In light of the foregoing claim amendments, Applicants submit that the rejection of claims 1 and 6 is moot. Applicants therefore request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 1 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

Application No.: 09/618848
Art Unit: 2637

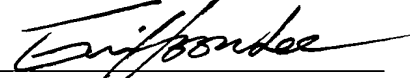
Docket No.: FAC-001RCE

Conclusion

In view of the above amendment, Applicants believe the pending application is in condition for allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 

Euihoon Lee

Registration No.: L0248

LAHIVE & COCKFIELD, LLP

28 State Street

Boston, Massachusetts 02109

(617) 227-7400

(617) 742-4214 (Fax)

Attorney/Agent For Applicant